

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
MAY 24, 2012**

ATTENDANCE: Cathleen Simpson, Chair; George Estrada, Vice Chair; Florisca Carter, Secretary; Charles Valentino, Ruben Felipe, Rev. Wm. Marshall (6:06 p.m.)

STAFF: Atty. Steven Mednick, Atty. Ed Maley, Atty. Mark Anastasi

CALL TO ORDER.

Commissioner Simpson called the meeting to order at 5:50 p.m. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES.

**** COMMISSIONER ESTRADA MOVED TO APPROVE THE CHARTER REVISION MINUTES THAT HAD BEEN SENT TO THE COMMISSIONERS.**

**** COMMISSIONER VALENTINO SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**DELIBERATIONS AND ACTIONS OF CHARTER COMMISSION ON THE
PROPOSED REVISED CHARTER FOLLOWING PUBLIC HEARING.**

Atty. Mednick said that there had been a previous discussion about the employment contracts. He intended to review that issue with Atty. Anastasi but realized that the section was something that did not currently exist in the Charter. It was something the Commission was considering including in the draft Charter. A brief discussion followed.

**** COMMISSIONER VALENTINO MOVED TO DELETE §L OF CHAPTER 3 REGARDING THE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS FROM THE PROPOSED DRAFT OF THE CITY CHARTER.**

**** COMMISSIONER ESTRADA SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Atty. Mednick directed everyone's attention to page 79 of the draft and the historical footnote. He suggested that this be removed at this time, pending verification. This was agreeable to all.

The Commission then reviewed the language regarding the Klein Memorial and the probate matter on page 122.

**** COMMISSIONER VALENTINO MOVED TO APPROVE THE CHANGES IN SECTION 4 REGARDING THE KLEIN MEMORIAL ON PAGE 122.**

**** COMMISSIONER ESTRADA SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Commission then discussed the issue of City Sheriffs. Atty. Mednick said that he had called the Attorney General about this issue, but they were not able to offer much guidance. This language will be found on page 54 of the Public Hearing draft charter. He explained that the City had a Special Act (S.A. No. 461 §14) that establishes the City Sheriffs. This is also referenced on page 14 and 22 of the proposed draft.

**** COMMISSIONER VALENTINO MOVED TO APPROVE THE LANGUAGE REGARDING SHERIFFS ON PAGE 54 OF THE PROPOSED DRAFT OF THE CHARTER.**

**** COMMISSIONER FELIPE SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Atty. Mednick then reviewed the clarification regarding Department Heads in Section 3 regarding Department Heads on page 85 of the proposed draft of the Charter.

**** COMMISSIONER FELIPE MOVED TO APPROVE THE LANGUAGE REGARDING THE DEPARTMENT HEADS IN SECTION 3 REGARDING DEPARTMENT HEADS ON PAGE 85 OF THE PROPOSED DRAFT OF THE CHARTER.**

**** COMMISSIONER CARTER SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Rev. Marshall joined the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

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**APPROVAL OF PROPOSED REVISED CHARTER FOR TRANSMITTAL TO THE
CITY COUNCIL.**

Atty. Mednick said that he would be turning in the final edit on Thursday, and reviewed the remaining review process.

He requested approval of the proposed City Charter subject to any errata changes with review by two commissioners. If anything substantial is located, a Special Meeting will be called.

Ultimately, the Council creates the final ballot question or questions. Atty. Mednick said that his sense was that if it was voted as one item, it would be best.

A draft Transmittal letter has been created by Commissioner Simpson and sent to Commissioner Estrada. Commissioner Simpson gave an overview of compilation of testimony that was being included in the transmittal letter. Regarding the Board of Education appointments, Commissioner Simpson said that she had emphasized that it was not Mayoral "control" but Mayoral "appointment". Discussion followed.

Atty. Anastasi indicated one small wording correction in §4A on page 90. Atty. Mednick noted this correction.

**** COMMISSIONER VALENTINO MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED
REVISED CHARTER FOR TRANSMITTAL TO THE COUNCIL**

**** REV. MARSHALL SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

UP-DATE AND PRESENTATION BY COUNSEL.

There was no additional business to discuss at this time.

ADJOURNMENT.

**** COMMISSIONER FELIPE MOVED TO ADJOURN.
** COMMISSIONER ESTRADA SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services